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NORTH CAROLINA



No. 91

RALEIGH, N. C.

QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO THIS ISSUE

1. GIVE THE PROSPECTIVE 1951 COTTON PRODUCTION.
2. HOW MUCH MILK WAS PRODUCED ON N. C. FARMS IN JULY?
3. WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED 1951 PEANUT PRODUCTION?
4. REVIEW THE TABLE ON PAGE 3.
5. DID LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER INCREASE OR DECREASE IN JUNE?
6. SUMMARIZE AUGUST 1 GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS.
7. WHAT CHANGES OCCURRED IN TOBACCO PROSPECTS DURING JULY?
8. COMPARE PROSPECTIVE 1950 SOY BEAN PRODUCTION WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.
9. DID CORN PROSPECTS IMPROVE DURING JULY?

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AUGUST 15, 1951

AUGUST 1, 1951 GENERAL FARM REPORT

GENFRAL CROP SITUATION

Crop conditions and prospects changed considerably during the month of July. As of August 1, indications point to an 8 percent smaller corn crop and a 3 percent smaller flue-cured tobacco crop than was forecast a month earlier. Yield prospects for both corn and tobacco declined rather sharply during the month. Soybean production will be about 1 percent below the previous year due to a decrease in acreage to be harvested for beans.

Declines in prospective yields of alfalfa and lespedeza were offset by increases in prospects for other kinds of hay and the August 1 estimate of all hay production is the same as a month ago. The largest peanut crop since 1948 is in prospect on the basis of current indications. The increase in peanut production results from an increased

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LOWER INDICATED PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO ON AUGUST 1

Production prospects for North Carolina flue-cured tobacco declined during July. The August 1 estimate of 932,075,000 pounds compares with the July 1 estimate of 959,060,000 pounds -- a decrease of 26,985,000 pounds or 3.0 percent.

A North Carolina flue-cured crop of 932,075,000 pounds would exceed 1950 production by 8.6 percent and exceeds the 1940-49 average production by 35.4 percent.

The August 1 estimated flue-cured yield of 1,275 pounds per acre compares with the average yield of 1,341 pounds last year.

Type 11 yield is currently estimated at 1,175 pounds with an indicated production of 337,225,000 pounds. The 1950 Type 11 yield averaged 1,300 pounds and production

(Continued on Page 3)

BUMPER COTTON CROP IN PROSPECT

August 1 indications point to a 1951 cotton crop in North Carolina of 610,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). Such a crop would be 237 percent or 429,000 bales above production last year and 5 percent or 31,000 bales above the 10-year average.

Assuming average abandonment after July 1, the acreage for harvest this year would be 764,000 acres--33 percent greater than the acreage harvested last year. With the exception of 1949, when 860,000 acres were harvested, the 1951 acreage is the largest since 1943.

As of August 1, prospects were for a yield of 383 pounds of lint per acre compared with 151 pounds last year and the 10-year average of 369 pounds. A yield of 383 pounds would be the fifth highest of record.

(Continued on Page 2)

PEANUT PROSPECTS GOOD

Based on August 1 condition reports, North Carolina's 1951 peanut crop (for picking or threshing) is estimated at 278,460,000 pounds. If the current estimate materializes, this will be the largest peanut crop produced since 1948 when almost 347 million pounds were harvested.

The 1951 average yield is estimated at 1,170 pounds per acre or 105 pounds more per acre than was realized last year. The expected 238 thousand acres of peanuts to be picked or threshed this year are 3 percent more than the 231,000 acres harvested last year, but 15 percent less than the 1940-49 average.

The expected increase over last year's yield is a result of favorable growing conditions to date in the heavier peanut producing areas. Little disease has been reported and vines are in good condition. Generally, the crop is clean, stands are normal, and soil conditions are favorable for pegging, pointing to a good peanut crop for 1951.

COTTON: NORTH CAROLINA PRODUCTION AND PRICE 1930-50



## GENERAL SITUATION (Continued)

acreage along with higher yield prospects.

Production of wheat is indicated to be even higher than the August 1 estimate, with wheat, oats and barley setting new records for production. Average yields per acre for wheat are 9.5 bushels above the average last year, with oats averaging 7.5 bushels more than the previous year. The average yield for barley also reached a new record high, with rye yields equaling the previous record high average.

A cotton crop of 610,000 bales is forecast as of August 1. This is 429,000 bales more than was produced last year and 31,000 bales above the 10-year average.

Weather conditions during July were somewhat more favorable than the previous month but dry, hot weather had already caused some damage to corn, tobacco and hay crops and the improved weather conditions came too late for crops to overcome this earlier damage. On the other hand, the dry weather has been favorable to cotton production, aiding farmers in boll weevil control.

## APPLE CROP BELOW NORMAL

Reports from North Carolina orchardists as of August 1 indicate commercial apple production will total 825,000 bushels. A crop of this size, if realized, would be 36 percent less than last year's bumper production of 1,298,000 bushels and 68,000 bushels less than the 1940-49 average.

## COTTON CROP (Continued)

Weather conditions since July 1, have been generally favorable for development of cotton. Dry weather has been an aid to farmers in their effort to control weevil damage. More cotton growers than ever before are dusting or spraying for weevil and in most cases they have been successful in holding infestation to a minimum.

However, there was a noticeable increase in weevil activity during the last week of July and the final turnout of the crop will depend considerably upon how well growers are able to control weevil from now until the crop has passed the danger point.

The Nation's cotton crop is estimated at 17,266,000 bales as of August 1, 72 percent or 7,254,000 bales greater than the 1950 crop of 10,012,000 bales. The 10-year average production is 12,030,000 bales. The current forecast indicates that the 1951 crop will surpass the 16 million bale goal set earlier by the Department of Agriculture.

## SOYBEAN PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY

For the first time since 1947 production of soybeans for beans is expected to decline. The August 1 estimate places production at 5,066,000 bushels, which, if realized will be about 1 percent less than last year's crop. Each year since 1947 a new production record has been set. This year's acreage cut, however, has reduced total production prospects below 1950 production.

The 1951 yield is currently estimated at 17.0 bushels per acre, the same as last year's record high yield. The early crop of beans is reported as being 'the best crop in recent years'. However, the late crop which followed potatoes does not present as good prospects as the early crop.

Tar Heel farmers expect to harvest 298,000 acres for beans this year as compared to 301,000 acres harvested in 1950.

## MILK PRODUCTION DECLINES

Milk production on North Carolina farms during July is estimated at 154 million pounds. This is 4 million pounds less than June and the same estimated production as May. Total production of 154 million pounds in July compares with 156 million pounds in July of 1950.

Production per cow in herds during July averaged 402 pounds as compared to 414 pounds in June. Production per cow during July of 1950 averaged 417 pounds.

There were an estimated 383,000 milk cows on North Carolina farms in July, an increase of 1,000 above June.

The prolonged effects of hot and dry weather on pastures is primarily responsible for the decreased milk production. Pasture conditions on August 1 were 79 percent compared with 92 percent on the same date last year.

## SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION HIGHEST OF RECORD

Production of small grains (wheat, oats, barley and rye) in North Carolina this year is estimated at 26,078,000 bushels, 42 percent greater than the 18,392,000 bushels produced in 1950.

Wheat production estimated at 9,720,000 bushels is the highest of record for the State and 79 percent greater than last year's 5,438,000 bushel crop.

A record oats crop is also indicated this year. The 1951 crop is estimated at 14,874,000 bushels compared with the previous high of 12,870,000 bushels produced in 1946, and 11,859,000 bushels produced last year.

Barley production at 1,260,000 bushels is also a record high and 42 percent greater than the 1950 crop.

Although the estimated rye production of 224,000 bushels is far from being the largest crop produced in the State, the average yield per acre of 14.0 bushels equals the record yield established in 1946.

The 1951 season was especially favorable to small grain production. Yields of wheat at 24.0 bushels, oats at 37.0 bushels and barley at 35.0 bushels per acre all set new record highs for the State.

## DROP IN EGG OUTPUT CONTINUES

North Carolina farm flocks produced an estimated 82 million eggs during the month of July. This was a decline of 10 million or 11 percent from June production and 2 percent short of total eggs produced in July a year ago. The July drop in production is due to fewer numbers of layers in flocks as well as a lower rate of lay.

## COTTON: CONDITION, ESTIMATED ACREAGE FOR HARVEST AND PRODUCTION, AUGUST 1, 1951, ALL STATES

STATE	AREA IN CULTIVATION JULY 1, 1951 LESS 10-YR. AVERAGE ABANDONMENT 1/	AUGUST 1 CONDITION			LINT YIELD PER HARVESTED ACRE			PRODUCTION (GINNINGS) 500-LB. GROSS WT. BALES		
		AVER- AGE 1940 1949	1950	1951	AVER- AGE 1940 1949	1950	INDI- CATED 1951 2/	AVER- AGE 1940 1949	1950	1951 CROP INDI- CATED AUG. 1
	THOUSAND ACRES	PCT.	PCT.	PCT.	LB.	LB.	LB.	THOUS. BALES	THOUS. BALES	THOUS. BALES
N. CAROLINA.	764	81	58	86	369	151	383	579	181	610
MISSOURI....	549	79	73	63	425	285	280	375	254	320
VIRGINIA....	22	--	--	90	389	120	415	24	4	19
S. CAROLINA....	1,162	75	67	81	308	224	355	707	405	860
GEORGIA....	1,458	73	69	75	238	227	303	738	488	920
FLORIDA....	67	--	--	80	170	208	215	14	13	30
TENNESSEE....	827	77	79	75	384	318	342	559	409	590
ALABAMA....	1,566	75	65	73	276	212	300	919	576	980
MISSISSIPPI....	2,575	75	77	81	326	314	373	1,644	1,332	2,000
ARKANSAS....	2,301	76	76	76	343	313	313	1,414	1,090	1,500
LOUISIANA....	981	70	69	85	267	281	428	527	426	875
OKLAHOMA....	1,588	74	63	82	173	145	206	511	242	680
TEXAS....	12,810	76	76	67	181	211	187	3,049	2,946	5,000
NEW MEXICO....	331	91	90	92	488	526	435	151	187	300
ARIZONA....	557	91	97	91	446	825	707	222	474	820
CALIFORNIA....	1,334	92	100	90	596	805	630	584	978	1,750
OTHER STATES	18	--	--	70	407	246	328	16	7	12
U. S. ....	28,910	--	--	75	265.9	269.2	286.7	12,030	10,012	17,266

1/ From natural causes. 2/ Indicated August 1, on area in cultivation July 1 less 10-year average abandonment. 3/ Allowances made for interstate movement of seed cotton for ginning.

## TOBACCO (Continued)

totaled 330,200,000 pounds.

Type 12 yield is now estimated at 1,350 pounds which results in an estimated crop of 476,550,000 pounds. The 1950 Type 12 production totaled 423,660,000 pounds. The August 1 estimated Type 12 crop is the same as July.

Type 13 yield currently estimated at 1,300 pounds would result in a production of 118,300,000 pounds. The 1950 Type 13 yield averaged 1,320 pounds and production totaled 101,200,000 pounds.

The burley crop (Type 31) is estimated at 19,720,000 pounds for an average yield of 1,700 pounds per acre.

Dry weather, wilt and black shank damage are primarily responsible for the decline in tobacco yield prospects. Dry weather damage extended over most of the usual growing season in many areas. Plants set after May 5 did not grow and mature as well as earlier set plants.

## CORN PROSPECTS DECLINE

Hot, dry weather during July reduced corn prospects in North Carolina. Current estimates place 1951 production at 73,066,000 bushels, 11 percent less than last year's record crop of 81,955,000 bushels but 26 percent greater than the 1940-49 average of 57,934,000 bushels.

As of August 1 the average yield of corn per acre is estimated at 34 bushels. This is 3.0 bushels per acre less than the July 1 estimate. This yield, if realized, would be 3.0 bushels per acre less than the record yield established in 1950 and 1.0 bushel per acre under the 1949 yield.

In several areas of the State dry, hot weather caught early corn in the critical stage of development, burning tassels prior to the emergence of the silks. This has resulted in poor pollination and reduced yield prospects in many sections. Growth of later plantings was held in check somewhat. However, rains during the last few days of July relieved drought conditions in most areas.

## HAY PROSPECTS SHOW NO CHANGE

At an estimated production of 1,211,000 tons August 1 prospects for all hays were the same as for a month ago. Although some hay crops showed declines in prospective yields, such declines were offset by gains in other hays.

Hays showing declines in prospective yields from a month ago were alfalfa and lespedeza. Alfalfa at an estimated 2.15 tons per acre was .1 ton below earlier prospects and the lowest since the 2.00 ton yield of 1944. Lespedeza yield prospects were also off .1 ton per acre and the prospective yield of 1.00 ton per acre will be the lowest yield for this crop since 1941 when the same yield was realized. Both alfalfa and lespedeza were hit hard by spring and early summer dry weather. In many cases lespedeza stands were reduced and early season growth checked by the rank growth of small grains.

Small gains in soybean and peanut hays were indicated as of August 1.

## NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS 1949 AND INDICATED 1951

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE			YIELD			PRODUCTION			
		AVERAGE 1940-49*	HARVESTED 1950	INDICATED 1951	AVERAGE 1940-49	1950	INDICATED 1951	AVERAGE 1940-49	REVISED 1950	INDICATED 1951	
- THOUSAND -											
- BUSHELS -											
NORTH CAROLINA											
CORN, ALL.....	Bu.	2,273	2,215	2,149	25.6	37.0	34.0	57,934	81,955	73,066	
WHEAT, ALL.....	Bu.	448	375	405	15.2	14.5	24.0	6,801	5,438	9,720	
OATS.....	Bu.	324	402	402	27.6	29.5	37.0	9,021	11,859	14,874	
BARLEY.....	Bu.	36	37	36	24.4	24.0	35.0	881	888	1,260	
RYE.....	Bu.	33	18	16	11.2	11.5	14.0	362	207	224	
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAIN.....	Bu.	-	29	40	-	30.0	25.0	-	870	1,000	
TOBACCO, FLUE-CURED.....	Lbs.	631.1	640.0	731.0	1,091	1,341	1,275	688,605	858,140	932,075	
TYPE 11.....	Lbs.	246.4	254.0	287.0	1,012	1,300	1,175	252,033	330,200	337,225	
TYPE 12.....	Lbs.	310.6	307.0	353.0	1,133	1,380	1,350	353,596	423,660	476,550	
TYPE 13.....	Lbs.	74.1	79.0	91.0	1,112	1,320	1,300	82,976	104,280	118,300	
TYPE 31.....	Lbs.	9.3	10.5	11.6	1,354	1,700	1,700	12,996	17,850	19,720	
COTTON.....	Lbs.	761	596	b/ 764	369	151	383	2/ 579	2/ 181	2/ 610	
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	Bu.	80	64	51	117	162	140	3,295	10,368	7,140	
SWEETPOTATOES.....	Bu.	68	59	40	107	115	110	7,181	6,785	4,400	
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	Bu.	232	301	298	12.5	17.0	17.0	2,921	5,117	5,066	
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	Lbs.	279	231	236	1,122	1,065	1,170	311,000	246,015	278,460	
HAY, ALL.....	Tons	1,238	1,140	1,153	1.01	1.09	1.05	1,251	1,246	1,211	
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	Tons	80	98	100	1.16	1.25	1.10	94	122	110	
ALFALFA HAY.....	Tons	19	66	62	2.14	2.40	2.15	44	158	133	
LESPEDEZA HAY.....	Tons	479	433	455	1.09	1.10	1.00	526	476	455	
PASTURE, CONDITION.....	%	-	-	-	84	92	79	-	-	-	
PEACHES, ALL.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,158	548	2,988	
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	893	1,296	825	
PEARS.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	266	150	327	
GRAPES.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,13	5.5	5.9	
PECANS, ALL.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,625	2,047	3,120	
UNITED STATES											
CORN, ALL.....	Bu.	87,882	83,302	84,575	33.9	37.6	37.9	2,980,777	3,131,009	3,206,992	
WHEAT, ALL.....	Bu.	62,624	61,741	62,576	17.1	16.6	16.0	1,071,310	1,026,755	998,286	
OATS.....	Bu.	39,460	42,027	37,851	33.2	34.9	36.8	1,311,651	1,465,134	1,393,323	
BARLEY.....	Bu.	12,569	11,191	9,793	24.4	26.9	26.1	306,523	301,009	255,131	
RYE.....	Bu.	2,448	1,822	1,828	12.2	12.6	13.8	30,173	22,977	25,138	
SORGHUMS, ALL.....	Bu.	15,131	15,935	15,303	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAIN.....	Bu.	6,737	10,361	8,767	17.5	22.9	18.0	118,772	237,456	157,848	
TOBACCO, ALL.....	Lbs.	1,612.7	1,603.8	1,785.3	1,100	1,267	1,260	1,787,136	2,032,450	2,249,280	
TOBACCO, FLUE-CURED.....	Lbs.	935.9	958.4	1,098.3	1,074	1,312	1,274	1,014,559	1,257,280	1,399,048	
COTTON.....	Lbs.	22,163	18,613	b/28,910	265.9	269.2	266.7	b/12,030	b/ 10,012	b/ 17,266	
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	Bu.	2,564.2	1,847.1	1,509.3	164.0	237.9	232.7	410,203	439,500	351,186	
SWEETPOTATOES.....	Bu.	665.6	562.9	397.9	92.4	104.4	96.7	61,148	58,729	38,458	
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	Bu.	9,348	13,291	13,102	19.0	21.6	20.6	178,567	287,010	270,064	
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	Lbs.	2,923	2,277	2,255	704	887	810	2,016,962	2,019,295	1,826,580	
HAY, ALL.....	Tons	74,845	75,741	76,573	1.36	1.41	1.48	101,644	106,819	113,249	
ALFALFA.....	Tons	15,304	18,308	19,694	2.22	2.24	2.30	33,946	41,029	45,365	
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	Tons	21,912	21,336	21,327	1.37	1.39	1.47	30,098	29,636	31,336	
LESPEDEZA.....	Tons	6,352	6,565	6,614	1.07	1.16	1.10	6,839	7,598	7,288	
PASTURE, CONDITION.....	%	-	-	-	81	88	86	-	-	-	
PEACHES.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	71,150	53,485	67,772	
APPLES.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	109,033	123,126	121,338	
PEARS.....	Bu.	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,008	31,140	31,697	
GRAPES.....	Tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,797.0	2,707.4	3,244.6	
PECANS, ALL.....	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	124,066	125,622	128,100	

\* includes Government purchases from unharvested acres in 1948

b/ 500 lb. gross weight bales. b/ Area in cultivation July 1, 1951 less 10-year average abandonment from natural causes.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Raleigh, N. C.

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FARM REPORT

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LAMB CROP UP 4 PERCENT

The 1951 lamb crop in North Carolina totals 28,000 head--up almost 4 percent from the 1950 crop of 27,000 head but 18 percent below the 1940-49 average.

The increase over the 1950 crop was due entirely to an increase in the number of ewes lambing. The number of lambs saved per 100 ewes at 104 compares with 108 saved in 1950.

NORTH CAROLINA & UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER JUNE 1950-51\*

SPECIES	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES			
	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT	
	1950 a/	1951	1950 a/	1951	1950 a/	1951	1950 a/	1951
	THOUS. HEAD		THOUS. POUNDS		THOUS. HEAD		THOUS. POUNDS	
CATTLE...	6.8	6.8	5,538	5,411	1,463.1	1,110.4	1,382,439	1,056,997
CALVES...	4.8	4.3	842	776	814.8	646.3	173,510	136,857
SHEEP &	.4	.2	35	20	1,120.9	885.5	100,684	82,041
LAMBS...					184,000	248,000	1,279,304	1,420,500
HOGS.....	28.0	40.0	6,201	9,033				

a/ Revised

\* Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

JULY MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY

Temperatures averaged well above normal during July, but there were no outstanding extremes. It was slightly cool from the sixth to the tenth, but the remainder of the month was marked by afternoon high readings consistently in the nineties, and early morning low mercury in the seventies. Averages for the entire month ran about two degrees above the July normal near the coast, and as much as four or five degrees in the Piedmont and the mountains.

Precipitation averaged abundant in North Carolina during July, but most of it fell in the form of local thundershowers, and a few areas failed to get enough for best plant growth. It was moderately dry over the southern mountains and in parts of the Piedmont, but the remainder of the western part of the State had about normal rainfall. Much of the coastal plain had above-average amounts of rain--Wilmington, for example, had over ten inches--but Hatteras, on the outer banks, had less than two inches, or about one-third of the usual July total. Except for the latter part of the first week and early part of the second, when little rain fell anywhere in the State, showers were well distributed throughout the month.

CATTLE SLAUGHTER INCREASES

Commercial slaughter of all species except cattle in North Carolina during June showed a decline both in numbers and total liveweight from May slaughter. A total of 6,800 cattle were slaughtered in June, 700 more than during the preceding month but the same as June 1950 slaughter. Total liveweight was down from June

of last year however due to a decrease of 26 pounds in average liveweight of cattle slaughtered. The number of calves slaughtered at 4,300 head was down 600 from May and 500 head below June 1950. The 40,000 hogs slaughtered during June compared with 43,000 slaughtered in May and 28,000 in June of last year.

NORTH CAROLINA - INCHES OF RAINFALL DURING JULY, 1951

